

Will This Thing Never End?

STILL ANOTHER SUIT

Growing out of the Thornton and Blue Escapade.

Messrs. Gentry & Jackson

IN FOR

AN ANALOGY,

OR THE

Telephone Wires

ALL OVER TOWN ARE

LIABLE TO BE PULLED DOWN.

Very few people in Atlanta but what are acquainted with facts concerning the recent difficulty between Mr. E. W. Blue, the "watches" man, and Mr. Scott Thornton, the high time-giver.

It is known that the thing appeared to be settled, but, as will appear from the letters we print this morning from Mr. Thornton's lawyers to Mr. Blue, that it is rather unsettled.

It will be remembered that Mr. Thornton's great and only objection to Mr. Blue's mention of him in his ad was to be "cleared with the kind of company therein named."

Mr. Blue's letter of analogy to Mr. Thornton, which was evidently entirely satisfactory to Mr. Thornton, so far as he himself was personally concerned, will also be remembered.

In yesterday's issue appeared an ad from Messrs. Gentry & Jackson, headed:

SCOTT THORNTON AND E. W. BLUE. To which Mr. Blue takes exception, and strange to say, the objection is the same as Mr. Thornton's, viz: Mr. Blue objects to being named in such company as Scott Thornton, and will demand a public explanation at the hands of Messrs. Gentry & Jackson, or he.

Will write them up in the meantime, while all this trouble is going on. Mr. Blue desires us to state that he will continue to sell watches and all jewelry to the public at the low price of \$1 per week, at 57 and 59 Peachtree street.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

EPILEPSY. An account of the only rational mode of treatment. Remedy for epilepsy. By Dr. W. L. A. M. S. New London, Conn. Mar 1889.

POPE'S ELDER FLOWER LOTION MAKES FAIR, WHITE HANDS, BRIGHT, CLEAR COMPLEXION, SOFT, HEALTHY SKIN.

AS A SKIN REMEDY, Pope's Elder Flower Lotion HAS NO EQUAL.

It cures chaps, sunburn, freckles, pimples, chills, dandruff, etc., and preserves the natural beauty and tone of the skin. Sells everywhere.

HITCHCOCK & BROS., 14 Whitehall Street.

The Highest Mark!

From the first American newspaper, the Boston Public Occurrences, or, how, the New York Herald of 1884, which was taken out of the dark, unwholesome four in 1889, to the first state dinner in 1889, to the

"ELEGANT"

is still more marvelous. And even "Elegant" since March 1, is better than ever before. Why? Progress moves at a constantly accelerated speed.

We have just returned from a trip to the mill making this wonderful flour. We were more than pleased. We found the millers, the mill, the wheat, everything, all that could be desired. The flour is the best in the world, the choicest wheat, rich and golden, the flour

Perfect and Pure.

To our question, "How have you kept 'Elegant' so good for so many years?" P. B. Powell, Sr., answered: "We have always pressed for the highest quality. No matter how hard, we have never let a letter or a line be inserted—never one—until it has been thus inspected by this mill in the best three years. And we have been more honest than the flour makers have been for their record is good, and their flour pure. No damaged wheat is ever ground in our mill. We claim the 'Elegant' is the

Best Flour Ever Sold in This Market.

It took the premium at the last World's Exposition in London. It takes the premium every year. We have a winter flour in stock 28 cents less than any other flour in the market, but just try it. Weigh the flour and count the time, see if it is not the best as well as the best. Very little profit in selling it, but just on having it and you will get it. It is PURE.

BRUNNER & BROWDER,

Sole Agents.

Add 20 drops of Angostura Bitters to every glass of impure water you drink. The genuine only manufactured by Dr. Siegert & Sons. Ask your druggist.

THE NEW BOARD.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEET AND REORGANIZE.

Changing the Chairmen of the Different Committees, followed by a Lot of Routine Work—Important Demands on a Number of Principal Streets.

Yesterday the old board of commissioners of roads and revenues went out and the new board came in.

Colonel George W. Adair was elected chairman of the board.

Colonel Adair has been for a long while identified with county affairs, and in the election he received four out of the five votes, Messrs. M. C. Kiser and Dr. H. L. Wilson acting as tellers.

"I am much obliged to you for having conferred this honor on me. We will now proceed to business."

DR. WESTMORELAND WITHDRAWS.

Mr. W. J. Langford was elected joint without a dissenting voice. Mr. T. J. Donaldson was re-appointed general superintendent of the chainage, with Messrs. J. Meredith Donaldson and J. S. Gorman as overseers; each to receive fifty dollars per month as salary.

When it came to the election of a county physician, there was a dissenting vote from Dr. Divine, Dr. C. C. Greene and Dr. A. C. Moreland.

Dr. Robert W. Westmoreland stated that the work interfered with his regular practice, and he begged leave to withdraw before the balloting began.

Among the gentlemen mentioned for the office were Drs. C. C. Greene, A. C. Moreland, Dr. F. W. McElree, Dr. John Z. Lawrie and Dr. J. M. Haring.

Dr. J. M. Haring was nominated by Colonel Adair, and when it came to a ballot he was elected, carrying three out of five of the votes.

Colonel W. S. Thompson was the only candidate for county attorney, and before the election the question of salaries was discussed.

Commissioner Kiser moved that the salary county attorney be increased from \$300 per annum to fifty dollars per month, to keep the county from going to law, as he expressed it, and Colonel Thompson was re-elected attorney.

Dr. R. L. Felt was elected joint superintendent of the chainage, with Messrs. J. C. Johnson engineer, and then the elections closed.

APPOINTING COMMITTEES.

There was not much change in the committees. On chainage, Dr. H. L. Wilson, chairman; Messrs. Kiser and Adair.

Roads and Bridges, Mr. W. J. Garrett, chairman; Messrs. Hanning and Adair.

Alms-house, Mr. C. W. Hanning, chairman; Messrs. Garrett and Wilson.

Public Buildings, Mr. W. C. Kiser, chairman; Messrs. Adair and Garrett.

VARIOUS MATTERS CONSIDERED.

Mr. W. B. Miles petitioned for the road widened from East Point to Rough and Ready, on the Central railroad.

Mr. Sid H. Phelps offered to give \$1,500 to continue the road into DeKalb county, and provided the Fulton county authorities could work the continuation at East Fair street.

The commissioners agreed to allow Mr. W. B. Miles, executor of the estate of James Dunning, convicted of keeping a gaming house, in 1887, and to take the money for his services.

There were several petitions for improving streets leading from the city to the exposition grounds, in anticipation of the big business that will be done at the Piedmont exposition next fall.

A large number of unimportant petitions were presented, and small bills passed up, among them one for \$200 for grading the street through the McDowell property. The increase in value in this land was from fifty dollars per acre in 1887 to \$500 in 1889.

ADDITIONS TO THE ZOO.

An Alabama Man Offers Some Animals—Other Contributions.

Major Root is very happy over the zoological garden.

He received a letter yesterday that made him feel still better.

Mr. H. S. Womack wrote him from Chattanooga, saying that he would contribute the largest black bear in America, a tame deer, a turkey, a wild cat, a gopher, and a number of small animals. If Major Root would pay the expense of shipment from Greenville, Ala.

He answered by telegraph that he would gladly do so, and also that Mr. Womack at Greenville and Chattanooga that he would pay expenses of shipment, and to ship them immediately.

In addition to this Major Root has received contributions of a tame owl from Mr. C. Johnson, two fine magnolia trees from Mr. John Bull, a lot of fine chrysanthemums from Mrs. John Fitch and Mrs. Dr. Cooper, a large black owl from Mr. John W. Alexander, a splendid bald eagle from Ballist Williams, a group of wild cats from Mr. C. W. Morris, and a large black cat from Mr. Warner Morris, Colorado.

To-day the park committee will visit Grant park to look over the ground and select a place and decide upon plans for the buildings for the Great collection.

Miss Frances E. Willard's Lecture.

The most notable event which has occurred for a long while in temperance circles, is the coming of Miss Frances Willard, president of the National Woman's Christian Temperance union, and of the world's W. C. T. U. She will lecture next Sunday at 8 p. m. at the opera house. This place has been selected as the only one having an opportunity of hearing this lady, so renowned for her talents and eloquence.

A NEW WAGON FACTORY.

Petition for Charter Filed by Messrs. Atwater, Miller and Rogers.

A petition for charter for a new carriage and wagon company was filed yesterday by Atwater & Smith, in behalf of Mr. H. L. Atwater, Mr. Miller, of Miller & Brady, Mr. Williams Rogers, and others.

The petition asks for a charter with a capital stock of \$50,000, with the privilege of increasing it to \$100,000, for the purpose of building and operating a carriage and wagon factory. The privilege of establishing branches of the business is also asked for. Several prominent business men have signed the petition, and the company is now in the hands of the subscription is now in progress. Money, it is thought, will be raised without delay. The factory will be located in the suburbs of Atlanta and will employ about one hundred men.

TYPE WRITING.

And Stenographic Business—All Kinds of Work Promptly Executed.

Messrs. Crankshaw & Johnson, who are expert stenographers and type writers, have opened an office at 21 North Third street. They will do all kinds of stenographic work, type writing, copying, etc. Office correspondence a specialty. If you need anything in this line give them a call.

Theatrical and Sporting News.

For the latest and best theatrical and sporting news, read the John H. Dorman News and Sporting Age. For sale at John H. Dorman, under opera house.

THE JACKSON BEAUMONT DIFFICULTY.

Captain Jackson Explains the Difficulty as It Occurred.

ATLANTA, April 3, 1889.—To the Editor of the Constitution: In this morning's CONSTITUTION appears a notice of a personal difficulty which occurred at my office between my son, Tom Cobb Jackson, and Mr. W. H. Beaumont, entitled as follows: "The Jackson Beaumont Difficulty."

Some ten days since Mr. Beaumont was whipping very severely my daughter's little pony. She witnessed what she believed to be an act of cruelty and went to the yard and asked him to stop beating the pony, and using language to my daughter which was in every way insulting. The facts were committed to me by my daughter, and I immediately called on Mr. Beaumont, and my first impulse was to go to Mr. Beaumont's home and interview him on the subject. But reflection showed me that probably he had been accustomed to that delicacy which should characterize the behavior of gentlemen under such circumstances, and hence I let the matter pass.

A few days after he called at my office to pay rent for his house, and I requested him to stop beating the pony which he rented from me on May 1st, giving, as a reason, his behavior to my daughter. He immediately apologized and explained his regret at the occurrence. As he was about to leave, my son, Tom Cobb Jackson, entered with a written apology, and asked that he sign it. This he declined to do, and my daughter, who was standing between the combatants endeavoring to prevent a difficulty, and hence knew precisely what occurred. The two combatants, however, parted in good humor, and when Mr. Beaumont pulled back he ran down stairs. He was not in the least angry, and there are no signs in the night of a fight. My daughter and I were in the room in which he was, and he covered the space in three steps. I continued him calmly, and there was no controversy, because I believed him to be a gentleman, and he entered my office with his hand in his pocket. Several persons who were present at the time, including myself, could discover a scratch on him. My son is a mere boy, and acted in a boyish manner. He imagined that the insult to his sister ought to be resented, and as Mr. Beaumont showed light to my daughter, he felt that he should not have acted in the same manner.

I regretted the occurrence very much, and hope that upon reflection Mr. Beaumont will deem it wise to take the matter out of the courts. Whilst such difficulties are allowed to pass, and boys and girls are boys we must have them. I think Mr. Beaumont and my son were both at fault. They had both been provoked, and I believe each will act with more discretion.

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Spring Medicine

Is a necessity with nearly everybody. The run down, tired condition at this season is due to impurities in the blood which have accumulated during winter and which must be expelled if you wish to feel well. Hood's Sarsaparilla thoroughly purifies and vitalizes the blood, creates a good appetite, cures biliousness and headache, gives healthy action to the kidneys and liver, and imparts to the whole body a feeling of health and strength. Try it this spring.

"I take Hood's Sarsaparilla every year as a spring tonic, with most satisfactory results." C. F. WELLS, 310 Bridge street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

"Hood's Sarsaparilla purified my blood, gave me strength, and overcame the headache and dizziness so that I am able to work again. I recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla to others whose blood is thin or impure, and who feel weak or run down." LUTHER NASON, Lowell, Mass.

"We have used Hood's Sarsaparilla for years, and recommend it as the best spring medicine or blood purifier. Our boy is nine years old and has enjoyed good health ever since we began giving it to him. We are soldiers without it." B. F. GROVER, Manager, 341 Vine street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

"I wish to enroll my name as one of those who have derived health from the use of Hood's Sarsaparilla. For many years I have taken it, especially in the early spring, when I am troubled with dizziness, dullness, unpleasant taste in my mouth in the morning. It removes this bad taste, relieves my headache and makes me feel greatly refreshed. The two bottles I have used this spring have been worth many dollars to me. I advise all my friends to take it." JOHN BINNS, 603 4th Street, town of Lake, Chicago, Ill.

N. B. Be sure to get Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Sold by all druggists. \$1.50 for 50. Prepared only by C. J. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 Doses One Dollar

PAINLESS CATHARTIC

WORTH GUINEA BOX

For Weak Stomach—Impaired Digestion—Disordered Liver.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

PRICE 25 CENTS PER BOX.

Prepared only by THOS. BEECHAM, St. Helens, Lancashire, England.

B. F. ALLEN & CO., Sole Agents

FOR UNITED STATES, 365 & 367 CANAL ST., NEW YORK.

(Who if your druggist does not keep them) will mail Beecham's Pills on receipt of price—but inquire first. (Please mention this paper.)

CANCER OF THE SKIN

SWIFT'S SPECIFIC has cured thousands of this fearful disease, many of them after all other remedies had failed and the case was regarded hopeless. It seems to cure by forcing out the poison through the Cancer.

The World Ought to Know It.

The world ought to know what S. S. S. has done for me in the

CORNERING JUTE BUTTS

Is There Relief in the Pine Straw Factories?

The Whole Case Reviewed and the Information Laid Before the Farmers.

THE INFAMOUS TRUST.

WHAT IT PROPOSES TO ATTEMPT

The Declaration of Mr. Gratz, the Head of the Gang.

The farmers are now organizing for their fight against the bagging trust.

In this fight every good man will bid them Godspeed, and every man who loves his state will stand behind them in unwavering support.

What is needed first is information, and this THE CONSTITUTION gives this morning in a fullness and clearness not attempted by any other paper, and obtainable from no other source. There are three points of discussion:

1. Was the bagging trust last year successful, and is it organized again for the coming season?

2. Has the jute butt market been cornered, so that the proposed farmers' factories cannot secure material for making jute bagging?

3. Has the pine straw patent, under which pine straw bagging was made last season, been sold to the trust?

On these points we present information.

1. The bagging trust was successful last year, and is organized again for the present season, and insolently demands a robber's tribute from the farmers. We print an interview with Mr. Gratz, the head of the bagging trust, of more than two thousand words telegraphed us from St. Louis last night, in which it is declared that the bagging trust is ready for the conflict.

2. We print a dispatch from New York which says that the bagging trust, through Warren Jones and Gratz, has cornered the jute butt market, and has bought all the possible importation for the next four months. We are inclined to believe that this can be evaded. It is hard to corner the product of the world, and ships chartered by southern factories can secure and bring to our own ports jute butts with which to make bagging.

3. We print an interview with two Atlanta gentlemen, who own and control the pine straw patent, and who declare that it has not been sold to the trust, but will be run in the benefit of the farmers. They state positively that they are now building a factory that will supply 2,000,000 yards, and are ready to negotiate for similar factories for every southern state—hoping to build twenty in time for this season.

Such is the information THE CONSTITUTION lays before the farmers. It accompanies it with no suggestions, for it has none to make. Whatever course the farmers determine on as best and wisest, that will be our course, and THE CONSTITUTION will stand with the farmers to the last in making the fight against this infamous and unholy combination.

WHAT "BOSS" GRATZ SAYS.

Our correspondent in St. Louis sends us by telegraph the following interview with the "bosses" of the bagging trust, which we print for information. These men have shown themselves merciless and conscienceless and the farmers have nothing to hope for in their promises or performance. But read what the wires bring us.

St. Louis, Mo., April 3.—[Special.]—Given a cotton crop of seven million bales, and the bagging mills of the country would figure on making, during that same season, about forty million yards of jute bagging with which to cover the cotton. To actually cover the crop would probably take about fifty million yards of bagging, but then almost every planter, at the close of the cotton shipping season, has some few hundred yards of bagging left over, and the mills also have a little stock on hand.

When the season of 1888 closed, the bagging mills had something like twelve million yards of bagging on hand, which is termed a surplus. Bagging for cotton, as everybody knows, is made from jute butts. The long fibre of the jute is used for making burlap. The long fibre is worth, say five cents a pound. The "jute butts" are quoted today at two and one-half cents a pound, and strange as it may seem, there is no fixed relation between the price of butts and the price of long fibre. When it comes to shipping a cotton crop, you've got to have jute bagging. Lots of ALLIED SUBSTITUTES HAVE BEEN TRIED, and in each and every case the verdict has been "N. O."

The jute crop of the world comes from Calcutta, and so far as this country is concerned, the big London houses of Ralli Brothers and the Hendersons practically handle all the crop for our use. There is never any scarcity of the material. The demand for bagging is the heaviest when cotton shipping is most active, and that is only for a limited portion of the year, but the mills have to run over a long period of time to supply this heavy demand in a much shorter time, and hence bagging is manufactured ahead of consumption, and is held or carried by the mills until such time as the consumer wants it. This carrying adds to the cost of bagging, necessitating, as it does, the largest storage and the heaviest insurance, to say nothing of a risk of present loss if the annual cotton crop is short.

ON THE PRESENT PRICE OF JUTE BUTTS prices for bagging are figured like this: "Two pounds of jute butts will make one yard of bagging. The cost of raw material at the close of the season will be five cents. Add half a cent for ten per cent loss in weight in manufacturing, and another half a cent for cost of getting the material to the mill and you have six cents. Then comes in the cost of manufacturing, insurance and interest on the money necessary to carry a stock of bagging until it is wanted for use, but this is not too high at all, and one half cent per yard for two pound stuff.

"The present price of bagging," said Mr. Jell Wood, president of the Standard Mill

Bagging company of this city, "is a little below the average for quite a number of years, always leaving out of consideration the disastrous year of 1886. That was the lowest year known. Two pound bagging then sold as low as seven cents a yard and even less than that. The highest price of late years was last year, when the mills were threatened with extinction if the Mills bill to admit foreign bagging from duty became a law. Naturally the mill owners went to work under the circumstances to get all they could for bagging, and the highest figure of the season was 13 cents. It was intended to keep the supply as close to the demand as possible, so as not to carry over a stock liable to have to meet the competition of foreign bagging, which would have been a disaster. The mills are governed by a mutual agreement which restricts production and maintains a paying price. It is maintained that 9 cents is a reasonable price, and it must be noted that the manufacturers cannot afford to put bagging up to the importing point until the consumption demand is so close that the goods cannot be imported. The bagging is all used inside of three months. The result is that the combine is now obliged to sell whatever bagging the country wants at a reasonable price. When August and September come along, the combine could ask fifteen cents and get it with very little, if they chose, as the cotton shipper is bound to have the bagging, and a large amount of it anyway. At present the price of manufactured bagging is deemed reasonably arbitrary, as some people may term it, and a sensible course for the cotton producers is to do, as many of them have done, buy

EARLY IN THE SEASON before the demand crowds the supply, and before the mills have earned the right to add to the cost for carrying the article in stock. Mr. Gratz was perfectly sure of one thing, that bagging would go up in price later in the season.

POSITION OF A MILL in the combine was recently stated to a reporter by Henry R. Murry, secretary of the St. Louis bagging company, as follows:

"We have nothing to hide," he said in reply to a question. "We fully expected to start up on January 1st, but we will not now resume this year. With us is simply a question of business. The year opened up with a surplus of probably 15,000,000 yards of bagging, while the total demand is only 45,000,000 to 50,000,000 yards. We are all human, of course, and all want to make money in our business. Warren Jones & Gratz came to us and suggested an agreement for the year in which we will remain idle, and we accepted it."

"Do you understand this to be a revival of last year's trust?"

"Not exactly. While we were ready to do anything for our own good and the general good of the trade, we protested against any arrangement which would limit the production of last year's excitement. We were informed that there was no intention of doing anything like that, and we entered into the agreement."

"What is the inducement for you to close your mill?"

"The inducement is that we receive bagging equal to our capacity—3,500,000 yards—at a price about cost, and fixed for the entire season regardless of the market price. Then, of course, we avoid piling up a large surplus, and breaking the market, as it was formerly."

"Does this agreement include all the mills combined in last year's trust?"

"I cannot say that it does. Some of the mills that are running now were closed last year, but they are under an agreement

NOT TO DUMP THEIR PRODUCT on the market. The New Orleans mill, which is now running, is under such an agreement. The Louisville mill, which also is running, is not under it, but it is a small affair. I do not think the Galveston mill is in the agreement in any way. There are several shut down like we are, and I presume on the same terms."

"How about the Boston mill, which last season looked horns with the trust?"

"It is running, but under an agreement that it will not dump its product on the market. It will put its product on the market. It is a large mill, with a capacity of 6,000,000 to 7,000,000 yards a year. Last year it was under no agreement whatever."

"What do you think about the corner in jute butts?"

"I do not think it is as close as reported. The amount in sight up to July 1 is 3,000,000 bales of 40 pounds each. I had an offer recently of 100,000 bales at 25 cents a pound, and for this reason I do not think the corner is close, though it may have been perfected since."

CHARLES A. TAYLOR.

THE JUTE BUTTS CORNER.

It has been reported that the bagging trust had bought all the jute butts that could be imported between now and June 1st, and that consequently, new bagging factories, if started, could not get material to work on. We wired our New York correspondent for information and he sends us the following, which shows that the report is correct:

New York, April 3.—[Special.]—"Still waters run deep," and at present so courses the current of trade in jute butts. The bagging trust people are not so sure of their own strength as they were a few months ago. They are playing their cards so carefully that the unwary are liable to be caught in their trap. There are three elements in the jute butts trade. Namely: importers of the butts, manufacturers of jute bagging, who are the buyers of the butts, and the brokers or middle-men between importers and manufacturers. Just now the brokers and manufacturers are as mute as mice, and even the importers are rather uncommunicative. Hence it is difficult to get at the true inwardness of the present situation. Diligent investigation has, however, revealed the much more correct picture of the jute butts trade than is generally supposed. That is to say, the butts are sold by the importers for future delivery just as cotton is traded in one of the New York cotton exchanges such sales are made for several months ahead and the price of the butts is determined by the market. The price of the butts is sufficient to take every bale of butts that can possibly arrive here by importation between now and June 1st. At that date the season of the current crop of butts ends and no new supply can be had until the next crop matures the beginning of which is in October, therefore, all the butts now in stock which will be available for the manufacturer of bagging to cover our next cotton crop, are those that will arrive between now and June 1st, and every bale of them has already been bought by the bagging manufacturers. Now if this is not a butt corner what but a corner is it. All the bagging manufacturers said to be in the trust except the Ludlow company. There is a low grade of butts, too poor to be used in making bagging except by being sparingly mixed with the good quality. These are usually sold to paper manufacturers, and it is said that the bagging trust people have even bought up all these low grade butts, and are now using them in their bagging. The price of the butts is not high, which is due to the wily manipulation of the trust. So long as the price is held below the figure at which bagging can be profitably imported—namely, about eleven cents, the trust will have nothing to fear from that source, and the same is true of the price below that mark until it is too late to import bagging for the next cotton crop. The only way to defeat the scheme is for the south to buy bagging now at present prices, and thereby get the necessary supply at moderate cost, or else force the trust to show its hand before it is too late to import bagging or to devise a satisfactory substitute. The current supply of jute butts is said to be smaller than usual at this season, because of a large proportion of the present crop having gone to England and Calcutta, which would have come here but for a fear during the re-

cent presidential campaign of tariff reduction on imported bagging in case of democratic victory. This short supply is, of course, an advantage to the trust. M. J. VERBURY.

THE PINE-STRAW BAGGING.

It has been printed that the patent under which pine-straw bagging was made last year, had been sold to the bagging trust and would not be available this year. The following will show that this story is incorrect and that the patent is available to the farmers if they find it best to use it.

The pine bagging patents are owned by five men, three in Wilmington, N. C., one in Atlanta, and one in Columbus, Mississippi. The three men in Wilmington composed the Acme company which began the manufacture of pine bagging last year. Mr. A. E. Thornton, the Atlanta Cotton Oil mill, and Mr. M. Frank, of the cotton oil mills at Columbus, Miss., have bought an interest in the patents, and the new syndicate has built a large new mill at Conly, N. C., which will turn out from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 yards of bagging a year.

The Acme Manufacturing company produced last year about 400,000 yards of bagging. This, in a total consumption of 55,000,000 yards, was hardly more than a drop in the bucket. Their plant was burned sometime last fall and they have just completed a larger one which will be in operation next week, when a test will be made in the presence of fibre experts from different parts of this country and one from Dundee.

"We are going slow," said Mr. Frank, "because we want to perfect the process before we invest a great deal of money in it. We wish to get all the light we can from this test, and if it works satisfactorily we will be ready to push the business. There is no doubt in my mind that pine straw will be a formidable competitor with jute, but this industry like all others must be perfected and must have its buckets, just as the manufacture of cotton seed oil has had its buckets. We have in this new factory goods improved on the one which was burned, and I am satisfied that we will make substantial improvements in the next. This is the history of every industry. There are more minds in this country now engaged on the subject of fiber than on any other department of industry; there are men making fibres of the palm-leaf, the pulque plant and the cotton stalk. There are many of these which theoretically furnish good fibre, but practically cannot be manufactured low enough to be profitable. Of course where this is true the enterprise will be discontinued."

"It is reported that the jute bagging trust has bought the pine straw patents, and it is also reported that they have been bought by the Standard Oil company or the Southern Oil trust."

"That you can deny. We have not been approached by those parties, and there have been negotiations with them. We are anxious to conduct an independent business. We do not propose to fight the bagging trust, but if they should fight us we feel that we can maintain ourselves as long as we can sell our two pound bagging for seven and a half cents at the mills, wherever they may be located in the pine belt of the southern states. We are not a fair manufacturer's profit at that price. It will take about \$200,000 to erect a two million yard mill and furnish operating capital. This will make about \$100,000 worth of bagging a year and the profit we estimate will pay twenty per cent on the investment."

"It is reported that the jute bagging trust has cornered the entire product of jute butts. Suppose they should make the price of bagging twelve cents; what would you do?"

"That would not effect us. We simply want a fair manufacturer's profit to compensate for the capital, risk of business and experience, and we have calculated that seven and one-half cents a yard would cover that. If the price combination were a not a trust—should fight us and put bagging below the price we can afford to sell at, we would simply stop manufacturing pine bagging till they put jute back to a remunerative price. We are not dependent on the jute bagging for a livelihood and in the event of that kind of fight we would simply live our time. We would probably not have to be idle very long. Up to last year the price of jute bagging has averaged about seven cents a yard. That was hardly profitable to the manufacturers and that brought about the combination."

"You don't propose to sell out to them?"

"No, sir; we have the good will of the farmers now and it would be foolish to throw them off. Of course you understand that it will take a great deal of capital to carry on this business. We expect to get five two-million-yard factories in operation by next fall, and we hope to have twenty factories in operation by the following fall."

"We will first give southern capital a chance to take hold of this thing, and if we can't raise capital in the south of course we will have to go north; but from present indications and from a great many letters we have received from all parts of the south, it looks as though southern capital would take hold of this enterprise."

"On what basis will you invite southern capital?"

"We have not definitely arranged that, but we know that we will take interest with others in mills in different localities. We are willing to take our compensation in the shape of interest in the business. In other words we propose a plan something like the Bell Telephone company's, to let the people organize companies and build factories in different localities and we will give them the right to that territory for a certain percentage of the stock, basing our profits on the outcome of the business."

"My idea would be to have a two-million-yard factory at Charleston, one at Savannah, one at Mobile, Meridian and so on throughout the pine belt of the south. We believe that we will get as much pine straw as we want from the sawmills. It is a question whether we shall not take the pine straw, which are portable, into the piney woods and ship the reduced fibre to the factory instead of shipping it green. Mr. Thornton thinks that will be the better plan. The green pine straw, as it is, is worth about five per cent in weight and bulk in the treatment of the fibre mill and this would cause a considerable saving of freight."

"You may say that before we induce anybody to take hold of this thing we will have to be satisfied ourselves beyond a doubt that it is a success, because all the parties interested are so situated that they are not dependent on this enterprise, and they could not afford to be connected with anything which would be a failure. On this account we will perhaps have to move much slower in the matter than we would otherwise have done."

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vantage to large factories, and hence the tendency to build them large."

"Will you be ready to talk business on Thursday if there should be parties ready to treat with you for the organization of companies to build factories?"

"Not that soon, for we are to have a test in the presence of experts next week. We will be ready to talk business very soon after that."

Mr. Frank's remarks suggest a few figures. It takes about fifty-five million yards of bagging to cover a seven million bale cotton crop. That means twenty-eight such factories as Mr. Frank and his associates contemplate, and at the figures he gives would cost \$2,000,000, or about eighty cents a bale permanently invested in factories.

The crop of Georgia, a million bales, would take the product of four of these factories. Mississippi with a million and a quarter bales would take the product of five, Texas would take about the same, Alabama three or four factories, Arkansas about three factories, South Carolina three, Louisiana three and so on through the list.

The pine bagging men, however, do not contemplate a monopoly of the business. They have set their stakes for twenty factories, which will produce bagging for about two-thirds of the crop. This would be enough to break any unreasonable prices on jute bagging. Ten factories, making about forty per cent of the crop, would probably prevent exorbitant prices unless the pine and jute men should combine. The five factories they will undertake to build this season will put things in decidedly better shape than they were last year. Twenty factories on Mr. Frank's estimate would cost \$4,000,000, and the five to be built this year would cost \$1,000,000.

But experience and inventive genius always cheapen things—sometimes amazingly. It would not be surprising to see the cost of the reduced one-half before they are all built.

The farmers are not out of the woods yet, but they can see the light through the pine trees.

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